

New segment for space station arrives from Japan

AIM spacecraft undergoes readiness tests at Vandenberg

◆ **ISS Update:** The Japanese Experiment Logistics Module Pressurized Section arrived in Florida on Friday. One of three segments that are part of the Japanese Experiment Module, or JEM, the logistics module was transported to the Space Station Processing Facility. The JEM is known as Kibo, which means "hope" in Japanese.

The logistics module will serve as an on-orbit storage area for materials, tools and supplies. It can hold up to eight experiment racks and will attach to the top of another larger pressurized module. Kibo is Japan's first human space facility and its primary contribution to the station. Kibo will enhance the unique research capabilities of the orbiting complex by providing an additional environment in which astronauts can conduct science experiments.

Kibo's various components will be assembled in space during the course of three shuttle missions. The first of those three missions, STS-123, will carry the logistics module aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour, targeted for launch this year.



◆ **ELV Update:** NASA's Aeronomy of Ice in the Mesosphere spacecraft, or AIM, arrived Saturday at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California for a targeted April 25 launch

aboard a Pegasus XL rocket. Mating of the three stages of the Orbital Sciences Pegasus XL has been under way at Vandenberg. The AIM spacecraft now joins the Pegasus rocket at the facility.

AIM will undergo a series of readiness tests to verify its state of health, and the instruments will be cleaned and calibrated. Technicians also will partially deploy the craft's solar arrays for illumination testing.

AIM is scheduled to be mated to the Pegasus XL during the second week of April, after which final inspections will be conducted.

■ Health News —

March is National Nutrition Month. The



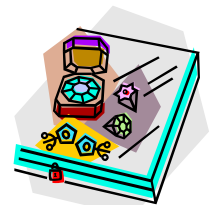
health campaign is designed to focus attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits. For more information, visit:

eatright.org/cps/rde/xchg/ada/hs.xsl/nutrition_4920_ENU_HTML.htm.

■ **Education Opportunity** — The University of Miami (Cape Canaveral Program) is calling on all engineers. Applications are currently being accepted for the Master of Science in industrial engineering degree in Cape Canaveral. Applicants can start the program in April. Courses are held Friday evenings and Saturdays to accommodate working professionals.

For more information and to receive an application/brochure, please call Augusto Roca, program administrator, at 305-284-4100 or send e-mail to augusto@miami.edu.

■ **Jewelry Fair** — The Indesign jewelry fair continues through today at the MFF, and will recur at the HQ Café from April 3 to 5. Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. See how beautiful \$5 jewelry and accessories can be!



■ **NASA Science** — People encounter rain and snow every day, and scientists have studied precipitation for centuries, yet it's amazing how much we still don't know about water that falls from the sky. NASA recently funded a suite of 59 research proposals under the agency's ongoing Precipitation Measurement Mission. The studies will look at ways to improve measurements of rain and snow from Earth orbit. Read all about it at http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2007/02mar_rainandsnow.htm?list29875.

■ **Did You Know?** Today is the anniversary of the death of Julius Caesar in 44 B.C., the notorious "Ides of March." A calendar designation, the ides were usually the 13th but in four months (March, May, July and October) the ides were the 15th.